CLAIMS

1. Procedure for ensuring the operation  $d_f$ signalling channels in a V5 interface between a local exchange (LE) and an access node (AN), said interface comprising at least two links (L), in conjunction/with redefinition of the interface composition, in /which redefinition changes are made in the V5 interface data, such as the location of signalling channels on the links, characterised in that the operation of 10 protected channels in conjunction with restarting is ensured by starting the protected channe/s on the channels defined for them in the new /composition and/or on the channels to which they were transferred 15 in conjunction with the protection switch/over.

2. Procedure as defined in claim 1, characterised in that the redefinition of the V5 interface composition is carried out independently both in the local exchange (LE) and in the access node (AN) without changing the value of the interface composition parameter.

3. Procedure as defined in claim 1 or 2, characterised in that the channels transferred to a backup channel in conjunction with protection switch-over are left at the locations to which they were transferred in conjunction with the switch-over, regardless of the redefined composition of the V5 interface.

4. Procedure as defined in claim 1 or 27 characterised in that composition changes in conjunction with the redefinition of the composition of the V5 interface are made in the original composition regardless of protection switch-over operations carried out in the V5 interface.

5. Procedure as defined in any one of the preceding claims 1 4, character is ed in that the interface composition parameter is a provision va-

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riant parameter of the V5 interface as defined by the V5 specifications.

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